



24w

PATENT

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: DeBaal, John Charles . DOCKET: 6528
SERIAL NO.: 10/645,486 GROUP: 1733
FILED: August 22, 2003 EXAMINER: Barbara J. Musser
FOR: INSULATED BEVERAGE OR FOOD CONTAINER STOCK

AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 17, 2006

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated December 29, 2005, Applicant requests entry into the record of the Amendment set forth in the attached claim listing. This Amendment After Final is intended to place the case in better form for consideration on appeal, and alternatively, responds directly to examiner's inaccurate understanding characterizing the foam as being "rigid" and that "none of them is easily substantially compressible" (Office Action Item 2, third paragraph.)

Handling of substantially compressible material in forming a unique laminate is the very problem Applicant's invention addresses.

As indicated in the attached claim listing, claims 1, 13 and 14 have been amended to clarify that the foam in the disclosed method is compressible. That applicant's foam is compressible is explicitly taught in paragraph [0046, the fifth line from the end of the paragraph]. Therefore, no new matter is introduced. The amendment is further proffered, in direct response to Examiner's inaccurate understanding of the problem the invention is overcoming in the handling of compressible and not rigid foam.

Claims 15-18 withdrawn by examiner pursuant to the restriction requirement, are requested cancelled without prejudice for later presentation.

Remarks

Applicant has experienced an absence of tooling in the plastic laminate industry to manufacture this laminate. Conventional tooling for plastic laminates uses biased rollers.